



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES

State Fire Safety Board Meeting

CRA Sun Room – 2407 N. Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906

Thursday, September 15, 2022

1:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators
Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Timothy Dockerty, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities
Randall Halstead, Liquefied Petroleum or Flammable Compressed Gas Industry
Kenneth Herbart, Chair, Representing Registered Architects
Ruth Ann Knapp, Representing School Board Administrators/Members
Andrew Marceau, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Tavis Millerov, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Jeramie Morris, Vice Chair, Representing the Chemical Manufacturing Industry
Patrick Phelan, Representing the Professional Engineers
Richard Prestage, Representing the Nursing Home Industry
Dylan Rogers, Representing Places of Public Assemblage
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal/Director, Ex-Officio Member
Brian Talvensaari, Representing Fire Departments in the Upper Peninsula
Robert Williams, Representing the Building Trades
Ora Wolf, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry

MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Williams, Representing the Licensed Electrical Contractors

OTHER BUREAU ATTENDEES:

Hollie Metts, LARA/BFS, Executive Secretary
Nicole Cavanagh, LARA/BFS, Fireworks Program
Jordyn Hanses, LARA/BFS, Student Assistant

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bob Meagher, Certified Fire Protection Specialist (Retired)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

The State Fire Safety Board meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. Chairman Kenneth Herbart lead all attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by executive secretary, Hollie Metts. A quorum was determined present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

22-09-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Randy Halstead** and seconded by **Board Member Jeramie Morris** to approve the meeting agenda for September 15, 2022, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

22-09-02

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Ruth Ann Knapp** and seconded by **Board Member Steven Densmore** to approve the meeting minutes from March 17, 2022, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bob Meagher, Retired CFPS again inquired about the possibility of having an online database to look up NFPA 1031 certified individuals. He also asked if it would be possible to break down the fatal fire data further into subtypes by occupancies (specific subtypes in the International Building Code). There was some discussion with the board. Board Member Tavis Millerov offered to investigate Mr. Meagher's inquiry further. Others shared they felt this was outside of the bureau's scope.

V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

- a. **Bureau Updates:** The Fire Marshal gave an update on staffing at the Bureau of Fire Services. He also introduced Nicole Cavanagh and Jordyn Hanses, who were in attendance. Nicole is the new Fireworks Analyst in the Fireworks Division and Jordyn is a Student Assistant in Administration.
- b. **2022 Fireworks Season:** The Fire Marshal gave an overview of the 2022 fireworks season and noted there are three appeals for the board to review under new business.
- c. **Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules:** Staff continue to work towards implementing the changes in the Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules, which became effective on November 3, 2021. Most recently, staff developed the Fire Officer III curriculum, and a train-the-trainer is scheduled for August 22, 2022. He also stated the Fire Instructor II curriculum has been well received. The Fire Marshal also shared that the new council members were appointed on May 13, 2022 and will serve a four-year term.
- d. **Firefighting Foam Training Video:** Staff continue to record the training rosters for this mandatory training, which were due on July 1, 2022. To date, a total of 504 fire department rosters have been received. Next, the bureau will contact the township supervisors to attempt to bring fire departments into compliance with this training requirement.
- e. **MI Prevention Updates:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that the bureau along with MI Prevention and partners are gearing up for Fire Prevention Month in October 2022. This is the 100th anniversary for the NFPA's Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Don't Wait. Plan your escape." Staff have drafted a proclamation and press release and will kick off Fire Prevention Month with a press conference on September 30, 2022, at 10 am in Detroit. The Fire Marshal is also planning to read to 2nd and 3rd grade students at various elementary schools across the state. The reading schedule is in progress.

f. **Fatal Fire Stats:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier gave an update on the 2022 fire fatalities. To date:

1. There have been 88 fire related deaths in 73 fires.
2. This is an 9% increase in year-to-date deaths and an 8% increase in year-to-date fires as compared to the 2017-2021 average.
3. Residents between the ages of 40 and 79 years old are at the greatest risk (56%).
4. 24% of fatal fire victims are disabled.

VI. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided the board with updates on the following proposed bills.

- a. [SB 0991](#) (Underground Storage Tank Placement)
- b. [HB 5701](#) (Door locking/barricade devices)
- c. [HB 6319](#) (fire drills)
- d. [HB 6304](#) (automatic sprinklers)
- e. [HB 4888](#), [4889](#), [4890](#), [4891](#), and [4892](#) (Fireworks package)

VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Fireworks Appeals:** Chairman Herbart gave an overview of each of the appeal files. There was some discussion among the board members before calling the appeals to order. The board's decision will be mailed to the appellant(s).

1. **Citation #22-00012:** Chairman Herbart called the fireworks appeal to order at 2:50 pm. The board was asked to either uphold the Fire Marshal's decision and deny the appeal or grant the appeal and overturn the Fire Marshal's decision.

Total Votes: Uphold 15, Deny 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. The board ruled to uphold the Fire Marshal's decision. The appeal adjourned at 2:51 pm.

2. **Citation #22-00013:** Chairman Herbart called the fireworks appeal to order at 2:52 pm. The board was asked to either uphold the Fire Marshal's decision and deny the appeal or grant the appeal and overturn the Fire Marshal's decision.

Total Votes: Uphold 15, Deny 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. The board ruled to uphold the Fire Marshal's decision. The appeal adjourned at 2:53 pm.

3. **Citation #22-00014:** Chairman Herbart called the fireworks appeal to order at 2:54 pm. The board was asked to either uphold the Fire Marshal's decision and deny the appeal or grant the appeal and overturn the Fire Marshal's decision.

Total Votes: Uphold 15, Deny 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. The board ruled to uphold the Fire Marshal's decision. The appeal adjourned at 2:55 pm.

IX. STATE FIRE SAFETY BOARD COMMENT:

Board Member Ruth Ann Knapp shared some photos with the board following her recent travels to Grandview, Idaho, where the Class B AFFF is being taken for disposal.

Board Member Julie Bulson commented on the number of fireworks related injuries the health care industry sees per year. She offered to share a report on fireworks related injuries at the next meeting.

Board Member Andrew Marceau shared his concerns regarding a home school in Alpena (managed/owned by the public schools) that do not want to conduct fire drills in the school.

X. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

22-09-03

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Tavis Millerov** and seconded by **Board Member Dylan Rogers** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 1:00 pm

Location: CRA Sun Room - 2407 N. Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906

APPROVED: State Fire Safety Board Regular Meeting 10/20/22 (Motion #22-10-02)